

DR. COOK IS GLAD THAT PEARY HAS REACHED THE NORTH POLE

Says Famous Arctic Explorer's Observations and Report on the Polar Regions Will Confirm His Own.

New York, Sept. 6.—Peary has reached the North Pole. It has been doubly discovered. From the bleak coast of Labrador Commander Peary today flashed the news that he had attained his goal in the far north, while at the same moment, in Denmark, Dr. Frederick A. Cook was being dined and lionized by royalty for the same achievement.

Yankee grit has conquered the frozen north and there has been created a confidence such as the world will never see again. Two Americans have planted the flag of their country in the land of ice which man has sought to penetrate for four centuries; and each ignorant of the other's conquest has set within a period of five days a laconic message of success.

Cook, in his first message to his countrymen, was brief but non-committal. "Peary was even briefer, but specific."

"Stars and Stripes nailed to the pole," he said.

Five days ago, on September 1, Dr. Cook sent out from the Shetland Islands the first message of his success, a message which has aroused a storm of controversy around the world. Today Robert E. Peary, lost from view in the land of ice, and unheard from since August, 1908, startled the world by a similar message sent from Indian Harbor, Labrador. There was no qualifications; it left no doubt.

With but a word from Peary, the world waits for details, but none will be available until he arrives at Chateau Bay, Labrador.

Both the old and the new world were appraised of Peary's great achievement practically at the same moment, and the excitement which followed attests to the high pitch of interest aroused over this climax of man's perseverance.

Newspaper extras were rushed from the press, and those who read marvelled.

It was comparatively a simple matter to ascertain that the April 6 referred to by Peary was April of this year, as his expedition did not start from New York until July 7, 1908.

From the time Peary wrote his last letters home from his depot of supplies at Etah, in August, 1908, until he flashed the magic words from Indian Harbor, nothing was known of the fight he had been making across the frozen crust of the north.

PEARY REPRESENTS THE UNITED STATES

Washington, Sept. 6.—Commander Robert E. Peary was detached from regular duty with the navy department July 2, 1908, and assigned to special duty with the coast and geodetic survey.

His explorations in the Arctic regions before that date had won under the technical leave of absence from the navy department. This status was satisfactory neither to Peary nor to his associates in the naval corps of civil engineers, and it was believed that he could prosecute his scientific investigations with a freer hand if he were attached to one of the government's scientific bureaus and relieved from the tedious form of naval reports.

Nature Will Punish The man who misuses her gifts.

and if no attention is paid to her warnings--aches and ails that follow abuses--it's a matter of but a short time before good health is lost.

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ration s by granting him repeated leaves of absence.

In 1886, two years after the return from his first visit to Greenland, he married Miss Josephine Diebetsch, who, from the day of their union, has given him the support of her unselfish sympathy and co-operation. Mrs. Peary has upon different occasions accompanied her husband for a considerable distance northward and upon one of these trips a daughter was born to them. This child, who has always been called by her father "The Snow Maiden," held for a time the fame of rivaling that of the commander as the only white child known to have been born within the Arctic circle. In 1902, after Peary had been absent four years and hope of his survival had been abandoned by many, Mrs. Peary accompanied a relief expedition which met and brought him home.

South Pole Next Aim.

The absence from his family had borne heavily upon the explorer and upon his return to New York he declared that the trip just concluded to the Arctic seas was undoubtedly his last.

However, the work was continued. More funds were forthcoming when needed and his last and successful expedition was better equipped than those which preceded it.

Some of Peary's friends believe he will soon pine for new worlds to conquer and that a South Pole expedition may be anticipated. In fact, it was announced more than a year ago that Peary had planned a national American expedition for the exploration of the South Polar regions.

Mrs. Peary and her children are in Maine.

In the intervals between expeditions Commander Peary has lectured frequently and has written several books.

FAMOUS GEOGRAPHER WAITING FOR PROOF

Washington, Sept. 6.—"I believe in holding the whole matter of the claim of discovery of the North Pole in abeyance until adequate proof is submitted," declared Prof. Henry Gannett today. Prof. Gannett has a world-wide fame as a geographer and author of scientific works and is a member of the National Geographic society, Philadelphia Geographic society, American Statistical association, American Economic association, Washington Academy of Sciences, Geological Society of America, secretary of the eighth International Geographic congress and other scientific bodies. Prof. Gannett said today:

"Holding the matter in abeyance does not imply any especial disbelief in the manner in which Cook compares himself with Peary and others in connection with the claim of achievement. Now, there were others with Shackleton and Peary, and neither claimed anything as big as Dr. Cook has claimed. Dr. Cook says the reason for his success was that he made the trip at a different time of the year than any one else and he added that he found the ice very rough and that there were several leads of open water which bothered him. Cook and Peary went at the same time of the year. Peary reached the 'farthest north' at almost the very day that Cook says he reached the pole. Peary left Greenland about the same time that Cook says he left Greenland.

Almost Identical.

"The two journeys—those of Cook and Peary—were made at almost identical times of the year, varying from one another by not more than a week. I see nothing in Cook's narrative to make me suspicious except for this,

and except for the stories about his being pursued by polar bears and the muskox and what he had to say about the floating ice. I never heard of a polar bear attacking a man except in self defense. Polar bears are about as dangerous as the ordinary black bear of this part of the world. The muskox is a harmless animal. The floating ice story struck me as a funny yarn to tell.

"If Dr. Cook did reach the pole and left a cylinder there, it certainly is not there now. From all accounts I have ever seen the ice is certainly moving. Everybody who has been in that region has found that drift.

Means of Determining.

"An explorer can determine the latitude by a zenith telescope—the most accurate means—and by a sextant. Dr. Cook did not have a zenith telescope, as that is too heavy an instrument. He carried a sextant.

"You can tell you are at the pole by seeing the stars or the sun circling at the same distance above the horizon. The sun comes above the horizon on the twentieth of March and goes around and around in a spiral until the twentieth of the twenty-second of June, when it reaches its highest point. Then the sun goes lower and lower until the twentieth of September and sinks out of sight.

"I notice Dr. Cook said he had sent his papers to the states. I don't understand why he should send his records to the states and himself go to Denmark. Why doesn't he himself bring his papers to this country? We should have his records of latitude and longitude, of distances and directions, his notes on his trip before taking official action in the matter. What would constitute absolute evidence? I can not conceive of the possibility of any absolute and convincing evidence of attainment of the pole. We can only take his records and base action on them."

ADMIRAL MELVILLE DISCREDITS COOK

Philadelphia, Sept. 6.—Admiral Melville, when informed of the text of the Associated Press dispatch from Lieut. Peary, said:

"If Peary has telegraphed the Associated Press that he has found the pole, I believe it and say, 'Bully for him.'"

"Good for Peary," continued the admiral as a smile crossed his face. "I have known Peary personally for a long time and as he was well equipped for an expedition I think he had at least as much chance as Dr. Cook had for discovering the pole. Peary was within 200 miles of the pole in the last expedition and was prevented from going there by the opening of the ice packs. He has been gone long enough to have reached there."

"It was the crazy dispatches purporting to have come from Dr. Cook about the conditions he found there and other things that caused a doubt in my mind about Cook having found the pole. The dispatches of yesterday and today are more sane and are more favorable to Dr. Cook. The developments of the last few days and the Associated Press dispatches from Peary make the situation most interesting."

Dr. Henry Skinner, one of the founders of the Geographic Society of Philadelphia and an officer of the Pennsylvania Academy of Natural Science, said that the Peary dispatch indicated that Peary himself had reached the pole and placed the flag there. By the time Peary reached there, every vestige of the flag left by Dr. Cook would have disappeared. Dr. Skinner said that it was wonderful that two American explorers should have reported the discovery of the pole almost simultaneously and that he firmly believed both reached there.

DOUBT ABOUT THE HORIZON CLEARED

Copenhagen, Sept. 6.—Dr. Stromgren, professor of astronomy of the University of Copenhagen, who has interviewed Dr. Cook on behalf of the university, gave out a statement today saying he had no reason whatever to doubt Dr. Cook had reached the North Pole or at least its immediate vicinity. The details first published which showed the astronomical point of view raised doubts have proved on closer examination to be misunderstandings.

From the scientific standpoint Dr. Stromgren said there was nothing whatever to object to in Dr. Cook's method in using an artificial horizon of glass.

Commenting upon the criticism regarding the use of an artificial horizon, Dr. Cook said today that he had not employed mercury, but glass, and that therefore the objection based on the trembling caused by the moving of the set fell to the ground.

DETAILS OF THE PEARY EXPEDITION

New York, Sept. 6.—Peary's friends have for several weeks past been expressing a belief that he had already reached his goal and when news was delayed only by the difficulties of transmission. The receipt of the message today is taken to mean that the relief ship Jeanie, which left here a month ago, has reached Etah, Greenland and established communication with Peary at that point. It is possible, however, that Peary sent word by a chance whaler.

The last word came from Peary prior to his message today, received October 7, 1908, from Harry Whitney, a wealthy resident of New Haven, Conn., who was left by the expedition at Etah in charge of Peary's provisions. He said that the Roosevelt left Etah on August 15 on its northern journey. The last Peary expedition sailed from New York July 8, 1908. Commander Peary's last words were:

"Unless unforeseen circumstances intervene within the next year, I hope to plant the stars and stripes at the pole."

From New York the Roosevelt went to Sydney, thence to Hawks Harbor, where she took on supplies, then crossed Davis Strait to Halstenburg and followed the coast from there to Cape York. Etah was reached some time in August and from that point the route of the expedition can only be conjectured from the plan its commander had already announced.

Peary's idea was to reach the pole by the "American route," a way which

he himself had studied and developed during his former expeditions. The advantage of this route is that it allows a base of supplies approximately 100 miles nearer the goal than the Spitzbergen base which has been its chief depot. The advantages of the route appeared during Peary's trip in 1906, when he attained the northernmost point hitherto reached by man—87 degrees, six minutes, at about the 29th meridian west longitude. This was on April 21.

These handicaps and the constantly widening lanes of water and increasing roughness of the ice, with a threatened failure of supplies, forced Peary to turn back on April 21, when he had reached latitude 86 degrees, 6 minutes. After putting up flags and depositing a brief record of his achievements Peary started back for Cape Morris Jessup.

On his present expedition Mr. Peary announced that he would take a route from Greenland more to the west and not so far north as that of his previous attempt, adding almost as far as the 80th meridian of longitude and thus compensating for the eastward ice drift. He planned to establish his last base on an early found island northwest of Greenland. Peary based great hopes on the results to be obtained by following the Arctic currents which he had studied on his previous expedition.

In Foremost Rank.

Commander Peary has stood in the foremost ranks of Arctic explorers for nearly two decades. He was born at Carson Springs, Pa., in May, 1856. He entered the navy in 1881.

His first polar experience was acquired in 1886, when he made a reconnaissance of the Greenland inland ice. In June 1891 he sailed from New York on the Kite and making his headquarters at McCormick Bay on the west coast of Greenland, penetrated as far north as latitude 82. In 1893-94 he went to a point between the 79th and 80th parallels on the east coast of Ellsmere land. In 1900 he reached the 82nd parallel on the east coast of Grinnell land. In 1905-6, he skirted the north coast of Grinnell land and made an attack upon the pole from Cape Moss. This was the expedition which reached what was at that time farthest north.

An Ardent Worker.

The commander, on his present expedition, hoped to follow the path taken three years ago, which lay in almost a straight line from Cape Moss, and the supposed northernmost extremity of Grinnell land to latitude 84 degrees and 36 minutes. At this point Peary had discovered what he afterwards concluded to be the open polar sea. In 1905 his journey over the ice was delayed at this point for a week by open water two miles wide. When the ice finally allowed him to proceed, heavy gales sprang up, which forced him to abandon the greater part of his provisions.

He then found comparatively smooth traveling until he reached latitude 85 degrees, 12 minutes. There he encountered a terrific storm which held him prisoner, while the ice drift carried him seventy miles to the east.

NATIONAL CAPITAL R. JOICES OVER FEAT

Washington, Sept. 6.—"Should an American first of all place the Stars and Stripes at that coveted spot, there is not an American citizen at home or abroad but what would feel a little better and a little prouder of being an American."

Commander Robert E. Peary almost three years ago thus prophetically outlined his view of the value and interest attached to the achievement he announced in dispatches today. The news of Peary's feat following close upon that of Dr. Cook's planting of the American flag at this point, evoked enthusiastic plaudits in Washington.

"Such wonderful achievements as this make epochs in the history of the world," declared Captain Vedever in charge of the United States naval observatory.

Peary adds still another name to the long list of American heroes," said Prof. Asaph Hall of the observatory. "Energy he has displayed, his persistence and the intelligence he has brought to bear on this great problem are worthy of all commendation."

Those persons who had associated with Peary here spoke of him today as a man of wonderful capacity for doing things and they instantly accepted the statement that he had discovered the pole.

Courses Are Similar.

The courses taken by Commander Peary and by Dr. Cook did not differ very materially, according to Prof. Henry Gannett, the geographer.

"It seemed to me that Peary was being delayed when he left a year or so ago," said Prof. Gannett. "Peary's plan was to get up to the northwestern cape of Greenland, where he made his former headquarters before the ice closed in. He had been previously to the vicinity of Lady Franklin Bay and the northwest along the coast for quite a distance before proceeding away from land and start-

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A HARD CASE

Imagine a man so low with kidney disease that he had to sit up night and day. He even had to sleep sitting up, being unable to lay in his bed or stand on his feet. Yet such was the final condition of W. R. Marquis, the well-known business man of Bartow, Fla.

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